

# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #74.10



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Parents and Carers,

### Careers Fortnight

On Monday we start our Careers Fortnight. This is a fantastic two-week opportunity for our students to consider their futures and destinations beyond FPSS, whether those be employment, apprenticeships, college, sixth form or university. Students will have the chance to explore these options during lessons and tutor time.



The highlight is the Careers and Higher Education Fair on Tuesday 26 November which will be attended by many employers, colleges and universities. This is a great chance for students and parents to tour the stands and find out information about future careers and work experience. I look forward to seeing you there. All are welcome.

### Year 11 PPEs

Many congratulations to our Year 11 students who were highly focused for their PPEs (mock examinations) this week. Colleagues are now busy marking the papers and I hope students gain the grades their revision and hard work deserve.

### Sixth Form Open Evening – 21 November

A reminder that we look forward to welcoming Year 11 students, from FPSS but also elsewhere, to our Open Evening next Thursday. You will hear what FPSS Sixth Form has to offer, as well as learn about individual courses.

### Remembrance

On Monday 11th November at 12.13pm we held a two minute silence to mark Remembrance Day. This gave the opportunity for the FPSS community to come together and remember those who have died in conflict. Thank you to all our community for remembering and showing respect.

Take care,

Dr Andrew J Morrison, Headteacher

(BA Hons, PGCE, MA, PhD)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Week (Week 1)

ALL EVENTS

THU 21 NOVEMBER	Sixth Form Open Evening	6pm - 9pm
FRI 22 NOVEMBER	Late Start	9.15am

## Forthcoming Events

TUE 26 NOVEMBER	Careers and Higher Education Fair (CHEF)	6pm - 8pm
THU 28 NOVEMBER	Year 12 Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
FRI 29 NOVEMBER	INSET Day - School closed for all year groups	All Day

## SCHOOL TERM DATES



**SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING**

**THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER, 6-9PM**

Among many things to look forward to this term, one of the most exciting events on the horizon is our Sixth Form Open Evening at the end of November. We are very much looking forward to seeing Year 11 students and their families in school for this event on Thursday 21st November 2024. There is no need to register for this event in advance.

Our Sixth Form Open Evening is the starting point in the admissions process for the next academic year and the evening gives a great opportunity for students and their families to come to school, learn all about what subjects are like in the Sixth Form and have their questions answered from teachers, students and the Sixth Form team.

Below, parents and carers will find the timings for the evening, along with some other details on how the evening will run.

Time	Event
6.00 – 6.20pm	Presentation in Theatre
6.30 – 6.40pm	Moving time for parents/carers and students from Theatre to presentations
6.40 – 8.40pm	Subject presentations for parents and students
8.40pm	End of the evening

Parents/Carers should arrive at 5.50pm and make their way to the Theatre for the welcome presentation that will begin promptly at 6.00pm.

The main presentation for the evening will outline the key aspects of the Sixth Form and give important information regarding Sixth Form pathways and entry requirements, along with information on pastoral structure, extracurricular and general Sixth Form expectations.

Subject presentations will be running throughout the school but mainly concentrated in the English, Science, Art, and Tech blocks. Maps and room locations will be available along with Sixth Form Prospectuses when you arrive to show you where these presentations are. Should families wish, there will also be current Sixth Form students on hand to guide and advise you throughout the evening.

All subject presentations will last 20 minutes with a 5-minute break period to allow families to move to their next chosen presentation. A bell will sound to signal the end of each 20-minute period.

I would like to take the opportunity to remind parents and carers that students are advised to visit the full five subject presentations to gain the most information out of the evening. Many students will know what they would like to

study with us in the Sixth Form, however some may still be undecided; and so, having a full range of subject information may prove useful in making the most appropriate subject selection.

All subjects will have their presentations and subject information guides available on the Sixth Form section of our website. The 2025 academic year prospectus will also be available on the website nearer to the Open Evening which will provide students and their families with further details.

I am very much looking forward to welcoming our Year 11 students and their families to the Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 21st November to begin the exciting process of Sixth Form study at Furze Platt Senior School.

With very best wishes,

Mr P Ging, Head of Sixth Form



## YEAR 12 PARENTS' & STUDENTS' CONSULTATION EVENING

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November there will be an opportunity for the parents/carers of Year 12 to meet their child's subject teachers at Furze Platt Senior School. Face to face appointments will be available between 4.15-7.15pm in the Theatre and Main Hall.

Parents' Evenings are very important events that allow you to gain helpful insights into your child's progress, discuss upcoming assessments and find out how families can support students with revision, therefore we would request you attend the appointments with your child.

School Cloud is a platform whereby you will have an opportunity to book your appointments with your child's subject teachers in advance. **The appointments will be available to book on School Cloud from 7pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November and will close on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm.**

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November.

Best wishes,

Miss R Lake - Deputy Headteacher

## CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR FOR YEARS 9 TO 13

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November, 6pm - 8pm**

The event is for students in Years 9 to 13 and their parents and will take place on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November from 6pm - 8pm at school in the Theatre and the Main Hall.

So far, 23 universities will be attending and there will be over 40 stands representing a wide variety of careers and industries. It promises to be a very good event, giving students a fantastic opportunity to find out about higher education and a wide variety of careers, and meet and talk to people from the world of work.

We look forward to seeing as many students and parents here as possible. Further details and a final programme will be given nearer the time, but for a preview of the event, please see below.

Please note these lists are not finalised and may change.

Mrs J Bubb, Careers Leader

[Judith.bubb@furzeplatt.net](mailto:Judith.bubb@furzeplatt.net)

### Universities

- ACM Academy of Contemporary Music
- Bath Spa University
- University of Birmingham
- University of Brighton
- Bucks New University
- University of Cambridge
- Cardiff University
- University of Exeter
- University of Greenwich
- University of Hertfordshire
- Lancaster University
- Nottingham Trent University
- University of Oxford
- Oxford Brookes University
- University of Portsmouth
- University of Reading
- Royal Holloway, University of London
- University of Sheffield
- Solent University
- University of Surrey
- University of Sussex
- UCL University College London
- University of Winchester

### Employers

- ASK apprenticeships
- NBBJ
- Hygge
- Bright Horizons
- Skanska
- Satro
- Army
- Royal Navy
- Thames Valley Police
- Occuity
- KPMG
- Tilting Futures
- Indigo Access
- Thames Hospice
- NHS
- Horticulture and Garden Design
- Accent
- Baylis Community Media
- AkzoNobel
- Milwaukee
- Norden Farm Centre for the Arts
- Peer Productions
- Optalis
- Leisure Focus
- Carillion Communications

**BOOK APPOINTMENTS**

CAREERS & HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR

**CHEF 2024**

Tuesday 26 November, 6pm - 8pm  
in the Main Hall & Theatre

**Discover what options are open to you after school.**

Be introduced to courses, jobs and opportunities ... some you've never even heard of before! This might be the start to discovering the next part of your journey.

**An opportunity to ask your questions:**

**To Universities & Colleges:**

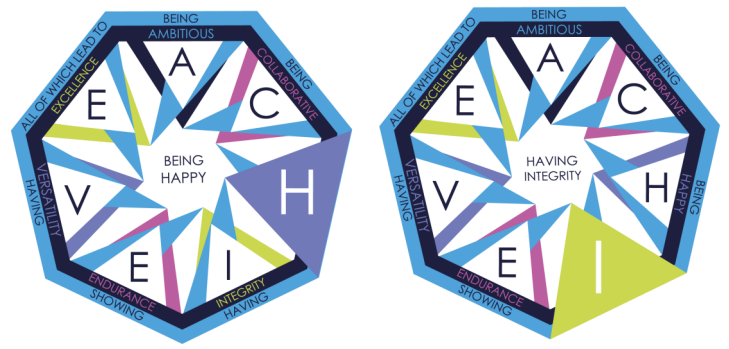
- How are your courses taught (tutorials, seminars, practical sessions)?
- Are classes available online or in-person?
- Where does your university rank, compared with other institutions?
- What is the workload for the course like?
- How many contact hours are included in this course?
- How is this course assessed (exam, dissertation, coursework and so on)?

**To Employers:**

- What steps can I take now to prepare for a career in this industry?
- Are there any networking or mentoring opportunities available?
- What skills are valued by employers in this industry?
- How competitive is the job market in this field?
- Are there work experience, internship, or co-op opportunities available for students?

**No booking required, just turn up!**

- Ultra Cyber Ltd
- AVK
- Institution of Mechanical Engineers
- Occuity
- Syngenta
- Airbus Defence and Space
- JLL
- St Edmund Campion Primary School
- West Wycombe Primary School
- Teach Maidenhead



## LATE START: FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 9.15am START FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL

Following our Sixth Form Open Evening, we have a late start on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. All students will go to their first lesson (instead of Form) that day and start at 9.15am.

## UPDATE ON OLIVER, THE SCHOOL MUSICAL

The students participating in the school musical, Oliver, are putting in tremendous effort. We hold five lunchtime rehearsals each week with various cast members, along with a two-hour rehearsal every Tuesday. Overall, attendance has been fantastic, so a big thank you to our dedicated students. We've already practiced some key numbers, including 'Consider Yourself', 'I'd Do Anything', 'Food Glorious Food', and 'Pick a Pocket', featuring some exciting choreography surprises. A special thanks to my Year 12 students for taking on some of the choreography and scene direction this year. Our designers have been busy, creating props like handkerchiefs, bowls, and fake food. If anyone has any newspapers to donate, we would greatly appreciate it. Tickets will be available for purchase after Christmas – we can't wait to showcase the final performance!

Mrs K Kalinowski

Head of Performing Arts



We have some fabulous facilities at Furze Plat Senior School. Recent developments include the three storey English/Science block and the state-of-the-art Theatre. We intend to provide the very best environment for students to develop, experience and ACHIEVE success. This summer we have introduced a second servery into our café and refurbished the IT suites. As you are no doubt aware, school budgets are experiencing many pressures and we do all we can to run the school efficiently, using our government funding wisely and maximising resources to deliver high quality teaching and learning. However, government funding cannot always cover the excellent facilities, resources and opportunities we strive to provide for our students. We therefore ask parents, families and friends to contribute to our ACHIEVE fund. Regular donations have paid for outdoor seating, arts and other classroom equipment, outdoor landscaping, a bike shelter and a contribution towards the grand piano in the Theatre. It is very easy to donate online via our website ([www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com) under 'Parents/Payments and Donations'). We would be extremely grateful for a donation of £10/month but any amount that you choose to donate will make a difference and help us enrich the school experience for every student. The school will be able to claim gift aid on all eligible donations to increase them by 25%.



ACHIEVE FUND

MAKE A DONATION

# THE WEEK AT FURZE PLATT

Perfect way to end the week in Food Tech last Friday — whipping up delicious pizzas! From classic margherita to loaded veggie, everyone got creative with toppings and flavours. Nothing like some teamwork and tasty results to wrap up the week.



Gardening club are "planting more in 24" and really enjoyed digging a big hole in the middle of the main car park. The oak tree has been kindly donated by Mrs Dahlbom a former learning support assistant. Thanks so much. Along the way we learnt a little bit about the interaction between squirrels and oak tree masting which is a very clever seed dispersal method. Trees are smart: who knew?



During fitness on Thursday the students took part in a two part workout which involved working up body weight pull ups followed by a partner workout requiring endurance and collaboration to complete with minimal penalties!



Year 8 girls have thoroughly enjoyed trying yoga for the first time as part of their movement topic in Games. Very impressed with the flexibility and control displayed and all left smiling after trying something new. Great ambition shown from all!





Our Sixth Form netball team started their netball season with a 11-6 win over Windsor Girls school on Wednesday. With fantastic level of performance displayed, the girls are now more motivated than ever to continue training and preparing for our next fixture in 3 weeks time.

**The team:**

- Connie Howe
- Charley Cox
- Lily Slater
- Annabelle Stratford
- Rosita Papoff
- Lizzie Dilley
- Elenia Reina
- Emmy Ionescu
- Emma Astrup McGuinness
- Freya Stevenson
- Halle Bloomfield
- Misty Fernandes
- Sophie McLachlan

**SCHOOL MEALS**

Click the link below for the Furze Platt Caf e's delicious menu for the first 3 weeks of the term. Bon app etit!

[FURZE PLATT CAF E MENU](#)



**MEN'S HEALTH NEEDS YOUR HELP**




Thank you to everyone who has donated so far. We've had some lovely words of encouragement and support. The moustaches are still in the research stages but we have great expectations by the end of the month. Let's see how much we can raise for the worthy cause of men's health.



[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)


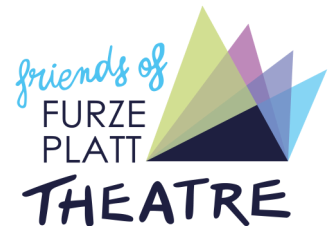
11 hour(s) ago  
 Donation from:  
**an anonymous supporter** Well done, it's a great cause to be raising awareness of.  
**£15**

1 Week(s) Ago  
 Donation from:  
**Lee Bonehill** Grow forth and prosper!  
**£15**



23 hour(s) ago  
 Donation from:  
**Katrina Paternoster** Can't wait to see what these look like at the end of the month! Great work Lads! Kat Paternoster  
**£15**

1 Week(s) Ago  
 Donation from:  
**an anonymous supporter** Hopefully you will all look like Jimmy Edwards. ( see Google) Good luck. It's a great cause.  
**£23**

**MAIDENHEAD SCHOOLS TALENT SHOW 2024**

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November, the FPSS Theatre will welcome the Maidenhead School Talent Show, hosted by the Maidenhead Lions. The event encourages primary school children to showcase their talents on stage and gives them an opportunity to build confidence and have fun. Two of our feeder schools, Cookham Dean and Holy Trinity C of E Schools, will be taking part, helping to raise money for Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service.

Contact us Email: [ptfa@furzeplatt.net](mailto:ptfa@furzeplatt.net)

[facebook.com/fpsptfa](https://facebook.com/fpsptfa) Website: [click here to access](#)

**Save the date for our next AGM: 14th January 2025**

Dear Parents and Carers

Save the date! We would like to let you know that we will be holding our AGM on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025. We will send out more information in the next couple of weeks.

### Is it too early to mention Christmas?

This year as in previous years if you order your turkey from Copas Farms they will kindly donate 5% of the order value to the PTFA. Just put in code **FPSPTA24** when ordering.

Also don't forget that we are signed up to Easyfundraising

**ORDER NOW**

*Turkey Cashback: 5% of order donated to PTA.*  
**Furze Platt Senior School**



**CODE:**  
**FPSPTA24**

[COPASFARMSHOP.CO.UK](https://COPASFARMSHOP.CO.UK) T: 01628 499 980

and we receive online donations when you access your favourite online retailers via Easyfundraising. So if you're doing your Christmas shopping online, please sign up or re-direct your current causes to us here: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>

Add the widget to your browser so you don't forget.

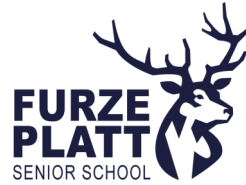
**[HTTPS://WWW.EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG.UK](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)**

Both these initiatives cost you literally nothing but earn valuable funds for the PTFA and allow us to provide more experiences and equipment for your children. Thank you for your support

Best wishes

Your PTFA

## CHECK OUT OUR CURRENT VACANCIES



**WE ARE  
HIRING**

### Behaviour Support Officer

EDV/2024/FPSS/43379



Furze Platt Senior School is a highly successful, inclusive mixed comprehensive school with a strong focus on student wellbeing, achievement, and support. We are looking to appoint two Behaviour...

📍 Furze Platt Road, Berkshire, SL6 7NQ

🕒 Permanent | Full-Time

💷 £24,183.00 - £26,234.00 Annually (Actual)

35 hours per week. Term-time only plus two INSET days

[Apply Now](#)

5 Days Remaining · Apply by 09:00am, Monday 18th Nov, 2024 · Job start: January 2025

### Join Our Talent Pool

Let us know you are interested in working with us by joining our Talent Pool.

[FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL TALENT POOL](#)




# LEISURE FOCUS REFER A FRIEND



## FURZE PLATT LEISURE CENTRE

REFER A FRIEND & YOU'LL BOTH GET A FREE MONTH

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[www.leisurefocus.org.uk](http://www.leisurefocus.org.uk) 

Make a commitment to yourself.  
Our Single Site membership comes with  
brand-new perks to help you make the most  
of your fitness membership.





The Croft Clinic

## ADHD AND AUTISM SUPPORT

### Coffee Morning!

We warmly invite you to our coffee morning, a supportive space for parents to connect, share experiences, and build a strong community with others who understand the unique challenges and joys of raising children with ADHD and Autism.

#### Event Details

- **Date:** Friday, 6th December 2024
- **Time:** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- **Venue:** The River Room, The Odney Club, Odney Lane, Cookham, SL6 9SR
- **Cost:** £5 per person
- **Refreshments:** Tea, coffee, and a selection of cakes provided  
*(Please let us know of any dietary requirements so we can accommodate them.)*

#### Why Attend?

- **Connect** with other parents who share similar experiences.
- **Exchange** valuable insights and support one another.
- **Relax** with tea, coffee, and delicious cakes in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

#### Special Guest: Gemma Ransome, Paediatric Dietitian BSc RD

Gemma will be joining us to share insights on children's nutrition. She offers virtual or in-person appointments at The Croft Clinic to support families with:

- Growth faltering, weight management, and healthy eating
- Selective eating/ARFID
- Allergy and intolerance, Coeliac Disease, Anaemia, vegetarian, and vegan diets

**RSVP:** To ensure we can accommodate everyone, please RSVP by Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November to [admin@thecroftclinic.com](mailto:admin@thecroftclinic.com)



Elevate Education's Autumn Term

## Parent Webinar Series

Elevate Education delivers high-impact workshops to our students that help to develop their study skills, motivation, and exam preparation. Over the next term, you're invited to join their parent webinar series, where you can help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they're learning at school.

### ***How to Get (And Keep!) Your Child Motivated***

17th September 6:00pm

### ***How You Can Help Your Child Manage Their Time***

1st October 6:00pm

### ***How You Can Help Your Child Set Up for Success in Exams***

15th October 6:00pm

### ***How You Can Help Improve Your Child's Memory***

19th November 6:00pm

### ***How You Can Build Resilience in Your Child***

3rd December 6:00pm

### ***How You Can Help Your Child Alleviate Stress***

17th December 6:00pm

Register today at: <https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukschoolwebinar>